

July 7, 2010

**MEDIA, PA** – Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) issued the following statement regarding the loss of Specialist Louis R. Fastuca, 24, of West Chester, Pennsylvania.

“Today, I was reminded again of the greatness of our nation and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I was informed that on July 5th in Abdulhamid Kalay, Afghanistan Specialist Louis Fastuca of West Chester, PA gave his life for us and for future generations of Americans. By his courage and selfless sacrifice, Louis reflects what is truly great in each of us and our nation. I extend my prayers and thanks to Louis’ parents for raising such a wonderful son and to his other family and friends who helped him grow into a strong good man. I offer my condolences and support to the Soldiers of D Company, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team who stood by Louis through the tough times as well as the good and will miss him deeply.”

*□ Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group*

*of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.*